

## ABSTRACT:

The invention relates to a method of searching a predetermined number of objects which are closest to an example, in a hierarchical object structure which is obtained by using a hierarchical object classification method.

The proposed method consists of going through the hierarchical structure starting from the root, descending as far as the first node closest to the searched example of which a number of leaves lower than the number of lacking results depend, and then going back up to the brother node of this node which is closest to the searched example, so as to add other results and so on and so forth until said predetermined number is arrived at.

Application: MPEG-7 descriptions.

Fig. 3

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